

Art & Design

Intent

At Cotherstone Primary School, we take great pride in being a caring and nurturing primary school nestled in the heart of an area of outstanding natural beauty. We value Art and Design as an important part of the children's entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum. Art and Design provides the children with the opportunities to build on prior learning with memorable learning experiences and extend skills and an opportunity to express their individual interests, thought and ideas.

Art, craft and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity. A high-quality art and design education should engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation. Within Teesdale we have a great community involvement and try to work alongside and with many local artists. The Bowes Museum is located close by along with many great sculptures that have been created by local artists dotted around the dale.

Aims

The national curriculum for art and design aims to ensure that all pupils:

1. produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
2. become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
3. evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design
4. know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.

Implementation

Throughout the school art and design is developed and taught through weekly individual lessons or topic related lessons. Our curriculum has well-planned topics that interest to inspire children's imaginations. Our approaches to learning balances exploration with demonstration, whilst encouraging pupils to make decisions and use the approaches taken by artists and designers to improve their work.

Pupils explore a range of media, improvise with materials and use their sketchbooks to review and refine ideas and skills. They are encouraged to

respond creatively to challenges set, make connections and sustain purposeful and independent activity.

We have identified the concepts which pupils should be introduced to, revisit and refine as they progress through our school. Learning opportunities are enhanced through computer resources, images and artefacts. Visits to see local sculptures and find out how and why they were sculptured in such a way is a very important part of learning how to understand art and design. Meeting local artists and seeing how their work has developed is also a great learning curve.

Impact

Pupils learn to evaluate their work, whilst self and peer assessment activities help them to develop their ideas, refine their skills and deepen their understanding.

Each medium-term plan is carefully planned to ensure a clear progression in knowledge, skills and understanding. At Cotherstone Primary, our curriculum identifies the specific contribution that art, craft and design makes to pupils' creative and cultural development. Whole school art themed days are to be encouraged and visitors/local artists into school/via Teams should inspire and encourage pupil's own creativity and love of art and design.

The Art and Design co-ordinator ideally should conduct sketchbook monitoring, learning walks and pupil voice to establish the impact on the children's learning, knowledge, and skills at least once a term.